

Message Text

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67

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 131813Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1077

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 4112

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, SA, US, ENRG

SUBJECT: ALGERIAN ALLEGATION OF US SUPPORT FOR BOYCOTT

1. FONOFF DIRECTOR OF MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS DEPASSE IN TELEPHONE CALL TO DCM JUNE 13 REFERRED TO RECENT CONVERSATION IN WHICH ALGERIAN AM-BASSADOR AIT CHAALAL ASSERTED TO DEPASSE AND POLITICAL DIRECTOR DAVIGNON THAT US HAD ENCOURAGED SAUDI ARABIA TO MAINTAIN PETROLEUM BOYCOTT AGAINST NETHERLANDS AND DENMARK. ACCORDING TO DEPASSE, AIT CHAALAL, IN COMMENTING ON OAPEC MEETING IN CAIRO HAD SAID THAT IT WAS QUITE NATURAL THAT SAUDIS WOULD SEEK TO PLEASE THEIR "US MASTERS" BY TAKING SUCH AN ACTION, WHICH WOULD SERVE TO SCUTTLE EUROPEAN-ARAB DIALOGUE.

2. DEPASSE RECALLED THAT BELGIANS HAD MENTIONED ALGERIAN ALLEGATION TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMEN JUNE 7 DURING HIS VISIT HERE AND THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY HAD INDICATED THAT QUESTION MIGHT BE DISCUSSED WITH SAUDIS DURING VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF PRINCE FAHD. DEPASSE WAS CALLING, THEREFORE, TO INQUIRE WHETHER MATTER HAD BEEN TAKEN UP WITH SAUDIS AND WHAT HAD BEEN THE RESULT.

3. DCM REMARKED THAT IT WAS INCONCEIVABLE TO HIM THAT US WOULD SEEK TO INFLUENCE SAUDIS IN SUCH MANNER AS ALGERIAN ALLEGED. DEPASSE EMPHATICALLY STATED THAT GOB GAVE NO CREDENCE WHATSOEVER TO ALGERIAN REPORT OF US INVOLVEMENT. HE OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT SIMILAR CHARGE AGAINST US HAD APPEARED IN FRENCH PRESS. HE
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EXPRESSED SUSPICION THAT QUOTE UNRECONSTRUCTED UNQUOTE

MEDIUM LEVEL OFFICIALS IN FRENCH FOREIGN
MINISTRY WERE SOURCE OF PRESS REPORTS.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE FOR REPLY TO GOB.

5. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO JIDDA, THE HAGUE, COPENHAGEN,
PARIS AND USINT ALGIERS IF APPROPRIATE. FIRESTONE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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